

**Robert Adam to George Washington, June 24, 1771,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM MR. ROBERT ADAM.¹

ROBERT ADAM June 24th. 1771 (Daylight quite gone.

DEAR SIR

I m favoured with yours and Observe the Contents your Orders by the Adventure shall be pointedly and particularly taken notice of—I was this Morning a good deal Alarmed when we began to Overhaul your Herrings² the first 3 or 4 Barrels we opened were in exceeding Bad Order On the top they were laid in promiscuously without either form of packing or Salt and most of those they were filled up with were realy Spoiled Herrings I had then determined to Relieve you of it and proceed no further, thinking it would be against your Interest to ship them as at all Events you had the freight to pay, but I was determined to have a Generall View of them and to my Satisfaction I found them in Generall turn out much better than they did at the begining, some of them I had repacked half way down, and filled up with fresh salt and after overhauling the whole which I have done this day they have lost a Barrel & taken about # of a Barrel of wine 2½ Bushels Salt and the Labour of a Cooper & 2 other hands so that you have now in your Mark Shiped 39 Barrels in pretty good Order.

In regard to your former sales I Observe yours from Robert Mc.Mickan, And see that the whole quantity shiped was Consigned from you to him so that the £50.10.1 which he says

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may be nigh the net proceeds Includes the Freight, Commission &c., All he says to us on the Subject is Viz. The goods Collo. Washington Ordered are Ship't to him & I believe will be full as much as the proceeds of his herrings will amount to.—This is all I know of the matter and believe I may be right that the freight is included I have not yet had their sales but Expect them dayly when I shall better inform you.—

I cannot Ascertain the quantity of Herrings as I was but now & then down I thought that Mr. Washington³ & Mr. Campbel⁴ had fixed that as I repeatedly desired them when they were packing them to Count 3 or 4 Barrels every day and at the End to Average them & this I looked upon to be the most equitable way both for you & me And this I hope they have done so that it may be fixed to your Satisfaction I am with all my most sincere Endeavours to Serve you Most Respectfully

Your Most Obedt. & very Humb: Servt. ROBERT ADAM

1 Of the firm of Carlyle & Adam, afterwards Adam & Co., merchants in Alexandria. Robert Adam was the son of Abednego Adam, of Fairfax County, Virginia.

2 "Agreed with Mr. Robt. Adam for the Fish catchd at the Fishing Landing I bought of Posey, on the following terms.—to wit He is obliged to take all I catch at that place provided the quantity does not exceed 500 Barls—and will take more than this qty. if he can get Cask to put them in—He is to take them as fast as they are catchd without giving any interruption to my people; and is to have the use of the Fish House for his Salt, fish, &ca. taking care to have the House clear at least before the next Fishing Season In consideration of which he is to pay me Ten pounds for the use of the House; give 3/a thousd. for the Herrings (Virg Money) and 8/4 a hundred (Maryland curry) for the white fish. Mr. Piper and Lund Washington present."— (Washington's Diary, February 3, 1770.)

3 Lund Washington.

4 John Campbell.